

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 571 without my signature.

This bill would establish a Lobster Management Enhancement Supplement fee of \$300 that commercial lobster fishermen and women would be required to pay, in addition to their annual lobster permit of \$333. This supplement fee would be used to assist the Department of Fish and Game (Department) for lobster management activities and would sunset on March 31, 2015.

In addition to increasing by almost 90 percent the cost of a commercial lobster permit, thereby potentially driving some permittees out of the fishery, the bill would also impose new mandates and obligations upon the Department that still would not be adequately funded.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger